

VIA: _____
(SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH)

DISPATCH NO. 786-A-1090

~~RYBAT/PBSUCCESS/SECRET~~

CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, Lincoln

DATE: MAY 18 1954

FROM : Chief of Station, Guatemala

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Info: Washington

SUBJECT: GENERAL— Kugown Operational Report

SPECIFIC— Essence

1. Paras. 8-9, 11-19, 22 and 27 of the attached report from Razmara contain information of a paramilitary nature and should be routed to interested PESuccess personnel. Highlights were previously reported in GUAT 538, 542.
2. Para. 2 concerns two cards sent to Razmara and Essence for suggestions. Copies of the finished product will be sent to you in a following report.
3. Para. 3 refers to a very interesting reaction to the "32" program. The one copy of the clipping submitted by Razmara is forwarded to Lincoln only.
4. Paras. 4, 5, 6 and 7 relate to Sherwood broadcasts. Highlights were cabled to Lincoln, information copy to Sherwood.
5. The meeting of the Diplomatic Corps reported in para. 10 was in fact held, but it was a farewell social function for a departing member of the Corps. It is interesting to note how quickly rumors are born and circulated here.
6. The remaining paragraphs cover miscellaneous developments requiring no comment.

Encl: as noted

17 May 1954

Distribution:

2 - Lincoln w/encl

2 - Washington w/encl

1 - Files w/encl

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

2003

20 MAY 1954

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~RYBAT/PBSUCCESS/SECRET~~

CLASSIFICATION

12 May 1954

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SUBJECT: Meeting Between CARTER and ALBERTO

1. A meeting occurred between Oscar H. CARTER and ALBERTO on 11 May, Tuesday night.
2. Attached are the birth announcement (announcing the birth of Liberty) and the mourning card (inviting prayers for the souls of the Communists).
3. The reception (reported in local press - see attachment) held in Retalhuleu for the return of Manuel Morán from the capital where he had been taken as a prisoner for having painted "32's" on walls in Retalhuleu, was organized by the local anti-Communist filial to express their appreciation for his actions and as a form of encouragement to others.
4. Some people are reporting that they recognize the voice of [] on the clandestine radio. If this is true, that he is broadcasting, he should make an effort to disguise his voice, as repercussions could result not only to his family and his novia, but also to his friends of the opposition with whom he associated here in Guatemala.
5. [] novia arrived at the house of CARTER's novia, quite upset and preoccupied over these reports. She stated she hadn't had a letter from [] in some time. CARTER suggests that [] write her, telling her not to worry and not to go around talking as this only invites danger.
6. A suggestion from CARTER for the programs and information emanating from the clandestine radio - these programs or announcements should be consistent - apparently

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on one of the first programs some reference or statement was made to the effect that an invasion was coming from the outside. On a subsequent program this was denied and/or the information given out was that the defeat of the incumbent government would be accomplished from within. This type of inconsistency only serves to confuse the listeners, and to destroy any confidence they might have in those responsible for the program.

7. If lies or exaggerated stories are going to be spread about, let them be consistent lies and lies that are not easily seen through or proven false by the government. An example of this - some time ago a list of Guatemalan Communists was published in CEAUGE or one of the other papers put out by the exiles. This list contained the name of David Vela. Although apologies were tendered to Vela, and he stated that he was not in the least annoyed, the damage had been done. No one in Guatemala considers Vela a Communist, and since his name was included in a list of reputed Communists, those who read the lists had doubts as to the veracity of the statement that these names were of Communists. Thus the full effectiveness of the list was destroyed, and not only of the lists, but such slips give rise to doubts as to the seriousness and knowledgability and sense of responsibility of those guiding the opposition.

8. CARTER suggests that the radio play up if possible the idea that the opposition army is going to use flame throwers. The rumors are going around among some of the military personnel that this is true, and it has inspired a tremendous fear among the soldiers. CARTER's group is trying to fan this rumor, but he suggests that the idea be played for all it is worth, not only on the radio, but in any other media available.

9. CARTER suggests that the psychological effect would be so great as to make it worth the money and any trouble that PANCHO secure one or two of these flame-throwers. Their operation, even without any intent for actual death-dealing effectiveness, should serve to demoralize the common soldier and greatly weaken resistance.

10. CARTER received the report that sometime around

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mid-day Tuesday, 11 May, an emergency session of the Diplomatic Corps was convoked in the Mexican Embassy, for two o'clock that afternoon, by the Mexican Ambassador. It is not known for what purpose this meeting was called, but the rumor going around is that Arbenz (Jacobo) is getting ready to leave the country.

11. This past Sunday, 9 May, the troop of parachutists (some 30 men) was rounded up and sent to Chiquimula. Also, some 200 other soldiers from the military bases here were sent by airplane to Zacapa that night.

12. Also this past Sunday word reached the Base de la Aurora from the Plana Mayor that the Guardia de Honor was going to attack them. This word reached there about 9 o'clock in the evening, and everybody was alerted to resist attack.

13. All the Base is on a war footing. The Base is surrounded with artillery pieces. Near the Guardia de Control there are two pieces, cal. 75. Near the Sala de Visitas there is another cal. 75. These are placed in earthen-ware fortifications (bunkers) (fortines de tierra). There are others in various other spots around the Base (exact locations not reported).

14. Again the word is being passed around the Base that the situation is getting serious and it is best that they consider how they are going to escape, because the invaders are bringing flame-throwers and it is impossible to stop these arms. If this happens, it is best that they throw themselves into the barrancos. (La invasión trae lanza llamas y que esas armas no las pueden parar. Que si eso pasa, que mejor se vayan para los barrancos.)

15. It is reported that the house of Macedonio Vicente of San Mateo Milpas Altas contains a small quantity of small arms hidden there by the PAR.

16. In San Bartolo there is another quantity of small arms in the house of Gilberto Velasquez.

17. Conclusions reached by various persons, and because of the fact that a special guard of Guardias Civiles has been assigned to the Rancho Nimajay in Antigua, indicate that the government has arms guarded here.

*Cable prepared
12 May*

Cabled

*to Dade!
only 11/11/54*

18. It is believed with more or less certainty that arms are hidden in the house of Arturo Bermejo in Antigua.

19. Also in the house of the woman Doctor Trejo in Antigua, because several persons affiliated with the Communists have been advised that in the event of necessity arms will be given them.

20. At a meeting, believed held Sunday, in Antigua of Agraristas from different pueblos in the vicinity, and headed by Cecilio Gaitan (Secretario del PAR of Antigua) and Arquimido Soto (Secretario de la Gobernación de Antigua - Parista) some 14 campesinos gathered. They agreed that if the Archbishop of Guatemala continued meddling in affairs of the Government that he should be expelled from the country, ~~and~~ or tanks and machine guns should be placed in front of the archiepiscopal palace to quiet him. They also agreed that the business of the "32" was the responsibility of the students and that the students should be pursued and made prisoners, because all this was directly against the government.

21. Guardias Judiciales have been sent out into the departments to try and find out who is painting the "32's", because these continue.

22. Gobernación has asked for an increase in the presupuesto so it can hire 300 guardias judiciales more, in view of the strong work which is noted in the ranks of the opposition.

23. The clandestine radio continues to cause uneasiness in the government circles, and arouse interest in the public. However, many people are looking for the program and have not been able to find it on their radios.

24. CARTER has sent out delegates or comités to the departments to encourage the filiales, etc. At present there is fear among the ranks of the opposition to participating in too much propaganda against the government because of the uneasiness which their presence is causing among the people. The comités had as their objective the campaign of defaming the government circles, creating fear among them, threats to the Guardias Civiles, etc.

25. CARTER has received word that the PGT has presented Arbenz with several petitions, signed now as the "Partido MAYORITARIO" of Guatemala (majority party). In one of these petitions the PGT asks for 15 diputados as their share in the next elections.

26. The other parties are pretty well split. This has reached such a point in PAR that the "bases" of PAR paid not attention to the list of diputados for the next elections that PAR wants to present, but the bases went over to the PGT.

27. The case of Chiquimula has caused serious pre-occupation to Arbenz. In the first encounter between the Guardia Civil and the campesinos, there were some 10 deaths. The following day the Military of the zone arrived and attacked the campesinos with machine guns. It seems there were some 50 deaths (un genocidio a carta cabal). The government doesn't know whom to blame - they can't blame the Communists, nor can they blame the Army - the result is that there are serious discussions in the Palacio because of this.

28. The next meeting between CARTER and ALBERTO is scheduled for Wednesday night, 12 May.

[]
ALBERTO